



NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

AGENCY: National Mediation Board (NMB)

SUMMARY: The Director, Office of Administration, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments within 30 days from the date of this publication.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Director, Office of Administration, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Record keeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

Currently, the National Mediation Board is soliciting comments concerning the

proposed extension of the Application for Investigation of Representation Dispute and is interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the agency; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the agency enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the agency minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: May 17, 2013

June D. W. King,

Director, Office of Administration

National Mediation Board

Application for Investigation of Representation Dispute

Type of Review: Extension

Title: Application for Investigation of Representation Dispute,

OMB Number: 3140- 0001

Frequency: On occasion

Affected Public: Carrier and Union Officials, and employees of railroads and airlines

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 68 annually

Burden Hours: 17.00

Abstract: When a dispute arises among a carrier's employees as to who will be their bargaining representative, the National Mediation Board (NMB) is required by Section 2, Ninth, to investigate the dispute, to determine who is the authorized representative, if any, and to certify such representative. The NMB's duties do not arise until its services have been invoked by a party to the dispute. The Railway Labor Act is silent as to how the invocation of a representation dispute is to be accomplished and the NMB has not promulgated regulations requiring any specific vehicle. Nonetheless, 29 C.F.R. § 1203.2, provides that applications for the services of the NMB under Section 2, Ninth, to investigate representation disputes may be made on printed forms secured from the NMB's Office of Legal Affairs or on the Internet at <http://www.nmb.gov/representation/rapply.html>. The application requires the following information: the name of the carrier involved; the name or description of the craft or class involved; the name of the petitioning organization or individual; the name of the

organization currently representing the employees, if any; the names of any other organizations or representatives involved in the dispute; and the estimated number of employees in the craft or class involved. This basic information is essential in providing the NMB with the details of the dispute so that it can determine what resources will be required to conduct an investigation.

The extension of this form is necessary considering the information is used by the Board in determining such matters as how many staff will be required to conduct an investigation and what other resources must be mobilized to complete our statutory responsibilities. Without this information, the Board would have to delay the commencement of the investigation, which is contrary to the intent of the Railway Labor Act.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from www.nmb.gov or should be addressed to Denise Murdock, NMB, 1301 K Street NW, Suite 250 E, Washington, DC 20005 or addressed to the e-mail address murdock@nmb.gov or faxed to 202-692-5081. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to June D. W. King at 202-692-5010 or via internet address king@nmb.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD/TDY) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

